REMARKS 7/10/03

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 10, 2003, having a shortened statutory period set to expire July 10, 2003. Claims 1-2 and 4-15 are pending. Applicants have amended Claims 1-2, 4-7, and 9-12, and canceled Claims 3, 8, and 13. No new matter has been entered by these amendments.

Claim Objections

Claims 2, 4, 7, 9, and 12 have been objected to because of informalities. Applicant has amended those claims and believes that those amendments overcome the objection.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §§ 112

Claims 3, 8, and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. That rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. Applicants have amended these claims to incorporate a definitive reference from which the relative terms "less" and "more" are referring. Applicants believe that such relative levels from a specified level of data processing is definite and would be clearly understood by someone of ordinary skill in the art as distinctly claiming a definite specified level of data processing performance within the recited element. For example, someone of ordinary skill in the art could easily identify a common level of performance such as a number of instructions processed per minute for a given number of minutes to determine if a particular unit would require more or less processing than the predetermined threshold number of acceptable instructions per second for a given time frame. Consequently, Applicants believe that the claim language of previous dependent claims 3, 8, and 13 (now independent claims 1, 6, and 11) particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter that Applicants regard as their invention. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the amendments to the claims overcome the rejection under Section 112.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-12, and 14-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being

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unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,336,124 B1 to *Alam* et al. ("*Alam*"), issued January 1, 2002, filed July 7, 1999 in view of U.S. Patent Number 5, 813,020 to *Hohensee* et al. ("*Hohensee*"), issued September 22, 1998. Also, Claims 3, 8, and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Alam* et al., and *Hohensee* et al., in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,767,833 to *Vanderwiele* et al. ("*Vanderwiele*"), issued June 16, 1998, cited in applicants Information Disclosure Statement filed February 15, 2000. Those rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

On page 4 of the present Office Action, it is submitted that *Alam* teaches storing intermediate format blocks, analogous to units, according to their processing requirements, citing column 6, line 59 – column 7, line 1. However, in the cited section of *Alam*, they merely teach that "the intermediate format document preferably groups characters into words, lines, paragraphs, and/or tables. Each group is stored in the intermediate format document as an intermediate format block." *Alam* goes on to state other data formats are also included in the intermediate format. However, such a teaching does not teach the claim element in Claim 1 of "*storing said units according to processing requirements of each said unit.*"

Nothing within *Alam* suggests that the particular intermediate format groups require more or less processing than other separately-identified groups. For example, there is no way to discern from the reference or any other prior art reference that "paragraphs" were grouped into a separate group because they had a more or less processing demand than "tables." Further, there is nothing within *Alam* to suggest that "words" and "lines" were placed in separate groups because they had separate processing requirements. (It might even be inferred that they had the same processing requirements.) Instead, it seems clear that *Alam* is teaching the particular groupings are selected based on their utility in providing the intermediate format, which can then be converted to the desired output format. (See column 7, lines 5-9; Abstract; Figure 7; column 7, lines 10 – column 8, line 8.) Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that *Alam* does not teach or suggest the step of "*storing said units according to processing requirements of each said unit,*" as recited in exemplary Claim 1 of the present application.

On page 6 of the present Office Action, it is suggested that, based on the teaching of *Vanderwiele*, that someone of ordinary skill in the art would recognize the following steps from Claim 1:

> *storing said units, requiring less than a predetermined level of data processing to convert to device-dependent format, in device-independent format; and*
>
> *storing said units, requiring more than said predetermined level of data processing to convert to device-dependent format, in device-dependent format...*
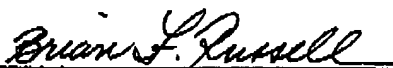
Applicants respectfully submit that the above-cited claim elements of exemplary Claim 1 are not suggested by the teaching of *Vanderwiele*, and that the set forth formulation of obviousness is rendered hindsight of the teaching of the present invention.

Exemplary Claim 1 requires that some units within the parsed document are stored in device-independent format and other units within the parsed document are stored in device-dependent format. The teaching of *Vanderwiele*, specifically including the Abstract, is that the system always performs a device-dependent conversion, whether targeting multiple hardware formats or a single device. Nowhere is output to the peripheral device in device-independent format taught. Essentially, *Vanderwiele* teaches that a specific conversion is performed when a single device is targeted and device-dependent bit formats are performed when multiple hardware is targeted. *Vanderwiele* is teaching away from the present invention by teaching that a device dependent conversion is always performed. Nowhere does *Alam* or *Vanderwiele* suggest a method or system that stores and transmits such a mix of both device-dependent and independent formats.

In summary, *Vanderwiele* teaches that <u>every</u> time its document conversion process is performed, a device-dependent conversion is actually performed on the entire document. Thus, not only is *Vanderwiele* not teaching converting some units within the same document to device-dependent and others to device-independent formats, *Vanderwiele* is not even suggesting converting or storing a conversion in a device-independent format. Still further, *Vanderwiele* is nowhere suggesting that the decision on whether to convert to device-independent or device-dependent formats is determined based on the relative processing power required to make the device dependent or device-independent conversion (see the above recited elements of Claim 1).

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Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that *Alam* and *Hohensee* in view of *Vanderwiele* nowhere shows or suggests the present invention as claimed in exemplary Claim 1 and that the rejection of that claim under Section 103 should be withdraw. For the same reasons as given above with respect to exemplary Claim 1, Applicants submit that the remaining claims 2, 4-15 are also not shown or suggested by either *Alam, Hohensee* or *Vanderwiele,* or any combination thereof, and that the rejection of those claims should also be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

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